

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A master batch comprising polyester resin as a binder resin and a carbon black as a colorant having a primary particle size of 10 nm to 100 nm, being blended with 30 to 60 parts by weight of the carbon black, and having a lightness  $L^*$  of 20 or less, wherein

the reflectance A at 400 nm and the reflectance B at 700 nm fall within the range satisfying the relation given by the following formula [1]:

$$0.5 < B/A < 5 \quad [1]$$

2. (Original) The master batch according to claim 1, wherein said reflectance A at 400 nm and said reflectance B at 700 nm are both 10 or less.

3. (Currently Amended) The master batch according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said reflectance A at 400 nm and said reflectance B at 700 nm fall within a range satisfying the relation given by the following formula [2]:

$$|B-A|/A \leq 0.5 \quad [2]$$

4. (Original) The master batch according to claim 1, wherein the DBP oil absorption of said carbon black is 50 ml/100 g to 150 ml/100 g.

5. (Currently Amended) A toner for use in electrophotography which is used in an image forming method which has a mechanism for removing the toner remaining untransferred on an organic photoconductor by abutting a rubber like elastic blade to said organic photoconductor after a toner image obtained by developing an electrostatic latent image on said photoconductor has been transferred, wherein the toner comprises the master batch described in ~~any of said claims 1 to 4~~claim 1 and said binder resin.

6. (Currently Amended) A toner for use in electrophotography which is used in an image forming method which has a mechanism for removing the toner remaining untransferred on an organic photoconductor by abutting a rubber like elastic blade to said organic photoconductor after a toner image obtained by developing an electrostatic latent image on said photoconductor has been transferred, wherein the toner comprises the master batch described in ~~any of said claims 1 to 4~~claim 1 and said binder resin, and the volume average particle size of the toner is 7  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.